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These include the three groups, Hymenomycetes, Gastromycetes, and Discomycetes. In the second of these are some peculiar Phalloids and Lycoperdaceæ. Among the latter is *Podaxis indica*, which bears a surprising outward resemblance to *Coprinus comatus*, although, of course, the interior structure is widely different. There is also *Xylopodium ochroleucum*, with a long stalk and a peridium marked with angular projections.

Only one change seems to have been proposed in nomenclature. This is the substitution of *Platycheilus* for *Tryblidiopsis*, preoccupied. A list of authorities cited and a full index are valuable portions of the book. The descriptions of the plates would have been more convenient for reference had the pages where each species is described been given.—JOSEPH F. JAMES.

HABERLANDT, G.—*Eine botanische Tropenreise: Indo-Malayische vegetationsbilder und Reiseskizzen.* Pp. VII, 300, fig. 51. Leipzig, 1893.

An account of a six months' trip from Triest to Java via Bombay and Singapore, and return via Ceylon and Egypt. Most of the time, November to February, was spent in the hot, rainy region of West Java, where the yearly rainfall is 4½ meters, and the mean annual temperature 25° C., with a difference of only 1° between the mean of the warmest month, September, and that of the coldest, February. In spite of what would seem to be favorable conditions, parasitic fungi in West Java are comparatively rare. The author thinks this may be due to the fact that the spores do not find lodgment, the foliage on a great many plants being thick, hard, and smooth, so as to be washed clean by the daily rains and quickly dried. If the leaves were hairy, so as to hold the spores and retain moisture, the opportunities for attack would be better. In some of the thickets the growth from the interweaving of lianas is so dense that fallen branches and foliage do not reach the ground, but gather in masses, like thatch of roofs, and over and through these, anchoring here and there, clambers the black and brown liana-like mycelium of a fungus resembling *Marasmius*—fungus-lianas, the author calls them.

During the nine days spent in Ceylon the following facts were gathered relative to the coffee rust (*Hemileia vastatrix*). The extensive and beautiful coffee plantations so graphically described by Haeckel, have been almost entirely destroyed and the land is now devoted to other purposes, e. g., tea-growing. The first coffee plantation was set out in 1825, and the business proved so remunerative that a vast extent of upland country was devoted to it, and coffee-growing and speculation became the rage. The leaf rust appeared in the seventies, and no radical means were found to check its rapid spread. The influence of this disease was felt in every branch of business and a great many people were financially ruined. Many of the plantations can now be had for one-tenth their former value, and the total depreciation in real estate is estimated by the German Consul General, P. Freudenberg, at about ten million pounds sterling. This disease also occurs in Java, but its ravages there have been partly offset by the introduction of a more resistant species of coffee, *Coffea liberica* from West Africa, which also yields more fruit and endures the hot Javan climate very well, even down to the coast.

Both in India and Java variegated plants are common and are used for ornamental purposes so extensively as to form a characteristic and striking feature of the garden landscape.—ERWIN F. SMITH.

MAYER, ADOLF.—*Ueber die Mosaikkrankheit des Tabaks.** <Landw. Ver. Stat., vol. XXXII. Berlin, 1886, pp. 451–467, pl. 1.

Tobacco plants in parts of Holland are subject to a variegated leaf disease. This is sometimes so serious as to take the whole crop, but ordinarily only scattered plants in the field are affected and there is no indication of infection from plant to plant, although sometimes several affected plants may be together.

The disease generally appears three to five weeks after the plants have been set out, when they are well rooted and have begun to grow vigorously. The first symptom is a geographic or mosaic coloring of the leaf surface, light and dark green, but otherwise the leaf appears sound. Soon with assistance, and a little later to the naked eye a considerable number of thickenings are visible in the green spots. These green spots grow so much more than the pale places that there are numerous irregular bendings of the leaf surface. Finally the light parts die early. The dark parts of the leaves also take on in later stages of the disease a transparent and lac-colored shade. When a single leaf is attacked all the younger leaves are sure to be, but at first only show earlier stages. The injuries caused by the disease are:

(1) Limitation of growth and a smaller harvest in consequence.

(2) Curling (wrinkling) of the leaves and unsuitability for cigar manufacture.

(3) Brittleness with the same result.

(4) Imperfect ripening and therefore incomplete (*schlechter*) burning, also injury of the aroma, so far as this can be said of any European tobacco. Once only the author found a little of the disease at Karlsruhe, in south Germany. The growers call the disease bunt, rust, and smut. The name "mosaic disease" was given by Dr. Mayer.

Dr. Mayer undertook a prolonged investigation to determine the cause of this disease. The opinions of practical men as to the cause were extremely diverse. The attention of the experiment station (Rÿksproef

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*This paper appeared some years ago, but seems to have been generally overlooked by botanists, owing to its place of publication. The subject is one of much interest and it is believed that readers of the Journal will be glad of an abstract. A recent letter from Dr. Mayer states that no microorganism has yet been isolated from the affected plants.